



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Brian Maienschein

July/August 2007 Volume 7, Issue 6



Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch
Mira Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Sabre Springs
San Pasqual
Scripps Ranch
Sorrento Mesa

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Keeping our Community Fire Safe | 1 |
| The Path Across Miramar Dam is Open! | 2 |
| Maienschein Donates \$200,000 to Father Joe's Village | 2 |
| Grand Opening of Scripps YMCA First | 3 |
| Speed Monitors Installed in Rancho Bernardo | 3 |
| Contact Councilman Maienschein | 4 |

Keeping our Community Fire Safe

Few things are more devastating than seeing firsthand the destruction a wildfire has left in its wake and a family who has lost everything. San Diego is a beautiful community, and we are fortunate to live here. But along with our beaches and rolling hills, comes a great potential for wildfires. As we enter into another fire season, I believe that San Diego is significantly better prepared to respond.

The City has in operation a 24 hour, daily helicopter program. Copter One is fully outfitted with night vision equipment, trained crew members and pilots. During fire season, this helicopter is staffed by the Sycuan Fire Department's fly crew at no cost to the City of San Diego. In addition, through a cooperative agreement with the City, Sycuan also makes available their Golden Eagle Hot Shots. This is a team of 20 specially trained fire fighters who are delivered to the most hazardous areas of a fire to make the initial attack. They are absolutely invaluable in combating major wildfires.

The City has invested significantly in additional equipment and technology including fire engines, trucks and brush engines. We have acquired and installed mobile data computers on all engines and trucks which provide firefighters with real time information about the incident, the area and structures involved and precise driving directions. In addition, we have enhanced radio and 911 communications systems.

Building and fire code changes have been made to increase prevention efforts in our most vulnerable areas. Brush clearance regulations have been extended to 100 feet from the edge of a structure. Wood roofing materials are now prohibited on all new construction.

I strongly believe that the improvements we have made in the City of San Diego will help save many homes and lives throughout the dangerous fire season. However, the involvement of the community is also an effective tool for preventing and minimizing fire damage. In addition to making your own home fire safe by clearing brush and changing smoke detectors, I encourage residents to consider getting involved in the Community Emergency Response Team program.

The CERT program trains citizens to take life-saving action to help families, neighbors, businesses and communities during the first few hours or days when emergency services are overwhelmed. The City has secured grant funding to train more than 670 community volunteers and 18 teams throughout the City.

Though it is impossible to prevent every tragedy, I believe that San Diego is significantly better prepared should the unthinkable happen.

The Path Across Miramar Dam is Open!

On July 3, 2007, just in time for the Independence Day celebrations, the pathway across Miramar Dam was permanently re-opened. I was joined by numerous community leaders and neighbors to open the gate, all of whom were anxious to cross the path for the first time since it was closed as a security precaution by the State Department of Health Services after September 11, 2001. I have been working with DHS to re-open the path since that time and I am so proud to have this important community resource open and accessible to the public once again.

In order to ensure the safety of the water supply, a fence has been constructed along the dam as was requested by DHS. In addition, there are plans to install video surveillance and security lighting at the site. The dam will remain open daily unless the Department of Homeland Security raises the security threat level at which time the dam will close until the threat has passed.

Maienschein Donates \$200,000 to Father Joe's Village



I am proud to announce that I was able to allocate \$200,000 from my district's Community Development Block Grant funding to Father Joe's Village for the construction of the Village Child Development Center.

The Village Child Development Center will be a brand new, state of the art child care facility for homeless children ages 0-17 years old. St. Vincent de Paul Village has operated a child care program free of charge to homeless families since 1988.

Over the years, the space has become far too small to meet the needs of the families residing at the shelter. The new three-story center will include a family literacy center, computer lab, therapy rooms, dining areas and age-appropriate play areas for all of the different age groups.

The Village Child Development Center will provide a safe and healthy place where children are nurtured and educated. I chose to allocate my funding to the Village Child Development Center because I strongly believe that stopping the cycle of chronic homelessness begins with our children.

Providing a safe environment not only keeps children safe and off the streets, it also helps to stimulate their cognitive and social growth. I am proud to have an opportunity to support this important project.

Grand Opening of Scripps YMCA First Phase

I was pleased to participate in the grand opening celebration of the YMCA at Scripps Poway Parkway on June 16, 2007. I joined Rancho YMCA Executive Director Cindy Fallen, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Development Committee Chair Claudia Tedford-Unhold, Ray Schnorr of the Rancho YMCA Board of Management and many community members to kick-off the first phase of programming at the site.

The YMCA facility will offer a variety of youth and adult-oriented sports programming on a year-round basis as well as seasonal day camp programs. The temporary facility will serve the community and others until a permanent facility can be financed and constructed. Fund raising for that effort is underway.

I am proud to be part of the planning effort for such an outstanding project. The YMCA at Scripps Poway Parkway will be a tremendous asset for the families in our community.



Speed Monitors Installed in Rancho Bernardo



I am pleased to announce that I recently directed the installation of a solar-powered speed monitor sign on Avenida de los Lobos. The electronic monitor will help encourage drivers to travel the speed limit. It has been shown that the sign results in drivers slowing down on this stretch of the road. I believe this is particularly important at this location given that it is a residential area and there is a continuous speeding problem.

The site for the monitor was chosen after many site visits and input from the City's Traffic Engineering Department, members of the Rancho Bernardo Sub-Traffic Committee and my office. I also placed an additional monitor on Lomica Drive earlier this year. I have installed these monitors in our community because I want to insure that our roads are safe for residents and pedestrians. These monitors have been proven to slow speeds in residential neighborhoods and I am confident that they will be successful in Rancho Bernardo.



*A Neighborhood Newsletter From
Councilman Brian Maienschein*

News From MAIENstreet
City Administration Building
202 C Street, MS 10-A
San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: 619-236-6655
Fax: 619-238-0915
Email: BMaienschein@sandiego.gov
Web: www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5

Your District 5 Staff

Lance Witmond
Chief of Staff

John Rivera
Chief Policy Advisor

Megan Ekard
Council Representative

Khoa Nguyen
Council Representative

Brittany Rankin
Council Representative

Courtney Smith
Council Representative

Christine Young
Office Manager/Scheduler

Please visit my website to email me or my staff, to download past editions of **e-News From MAIENstreet**, access information about the City of San Diego or to utilize any of the web-based government services offered on-line. Go to:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!